

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 03093 032138Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----032214Z 116076 /61  
P 032003Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1723

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STADIS//////////

EXDIS

FOR ARA/PAN MR. BELL FROM AMBASSADOR JORDEN

EO 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, PN  
SUBJECT: REVISED REMARKS FOR CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION

REF: PANAMA 3071

1. AT AMBASSADOR'S SUGGESTION AND IN CONSULTATION WITH  
FOREIGN MINISTER, THE SECOND PARAGRAPH OF THE DRAFT  
REMARKS TO BE MADE BY AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE GABRIEL LEWIS  
IN HIS CREDENTIALS CEREMONY HAVE BEEN REVISED. NEW  
TEXT FOLLOWS, SPANISH TEXT BY POUCH.

2. QUOTE: MR. PRESIDENT: IT IS A HIGH HONOR FOR ME TO  
PRESENT TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE LETTERS OF CREDENCE WHICH  
HONOR ME AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY  
OF MY COUNTRY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA. I ALSO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT THE  
LETTER OF RECALL OF MY ESTEEMED AND DISTINGUISHED  
PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR NICOLAS GONZALEZ-REVILLA, WHO IS  
NOW THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OF MY COUNTRY.

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3. I AM FULLY COGNIZANT THAT I MUST CARRY OUT THE  
DIPLOMATIC MISSION WHICH MY GOVERNMENT HAS ENTRUSTED TO  
ME IN PARTICULARLY DELICATE AND GRAVE CIRCUMSTANCES.  
AS YOU HAVE SAID, MR. PRESIDENT, THE TREATY OF 1903,  
WHICH GOVERNS OUR RELATIONS REGARDING THE PANAMA CANAL,  
IS "NO LONGER APPROPRIATE OR EFFECTIVE." YOUR RECENT

MESSAGE TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES TO THE EFFECT THAT YOU ARE "FIRMLY COMMITTED" TO NEGOTIATING AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE A NEW TREATY WHICH WILL "TAKE INTO ACCOUNT PANAMA'S LEGITIMATE NEEDS AS A SOVEREIGN NATION..." MAKES ME THINK THAT PERHAPS WE ARE AT THE END OF AN EXTREMELY LONG NEGOTIATING PROCESS WHICH AT TIMES APPEARED TO HAVE NO END AND WHOSE CULMINATION SHOULD GUARANTEE TO THE WORLD THE OPERATION OF AN EFFICIENT AND NEUTRAL PANAMA CANAL.

4. NOW, WHEN WE APPARENTLY HAVE REACHED THE THRESHOLD OF THAT REALITY, IT IS NECESSARY FOR OUR COUNTRIES TO TRAVEL THE REST OF THE WAY WITH MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING, THEREBY GIVING AN EXAMPLE TO THE WORLD OF WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY DIALOGUE AND ACCORD BETWEEN A GREAT AND POWERFUL NATION, SUCH AS YOURS, AND ONE, LIKE MINE, WHICH WILL NEVER ATTAIN THE RANK OF A GREAT POWER.

5. I AM GREATLY COMFORTED IN KNOWING THAT I WILL HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF CARRYING OUT MY DIPLOMATIC ASSIGNMENT WITH A GOVERNMENT WHICH, THANKS TO THE HIGH MORAL AND RELIGIOUS CONVICTIONS WHICH DISTINGUISH AND EXTOL ITS LEADER, WILL BE INSPIRED BY CONSIDERATIONS OF EQUITY AND JUSTICE IN ITS DEALINGS WITH MINE.

6. IT IS PARTICULARLY GRATIFYING FOR ME TO CONVEY TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE SPECIAL GREETINGS OF THE PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE BEST WISHES OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA FOR THE PROSPERITY AND WELL-BEING OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICAN AND THE PERSONAL WELFARE OF YOUR EXCELLENCY.  
END QUOTE.

JORDEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, TEXT, CANALS, NEGOTIATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 03-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS, EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS, EXDIS  
**Reference:** 77 PANAMA 3071  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REVISED REMARKS FOR CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PDIP, EWWT, PN, US, (LEWIS, GABRIEL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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